

C¹
C² Sub 0047
coupled to one of the diffractive element and the reflective element for selecting the single wavelength from the range of wavelengths by altering the optical path of the light.

C³
3. (Twice Amended) The laser microassembly of Claim 1 wherein the micro-actuator is coupled to the reflective element to displace the reflective element.

C⁴
7. (Twice Amended) The laser microassembly of Claim 1, wherein the micro-actuator comprises a micro-machined actuator.

C⁵
10. (Thrice Amended) The laser microassembly of claim 1, wherein the range of wavelengths comprises from about 1520nm to about 1560nm.

Sub 0047
C⁵
16. (Thrice Amended) A method for using a single mode laser microassembly to provide light with any wavelength selected from a range of wavelengths, comprising the steps of providing the light along an optical path, providing a diffractive element in the optical path to diffract the light, providing a reflective element in the optical path to reflect the light and selecting a single wavelength of light from the range of wavelengths by altering the optical path through displacement of a micro-actuator.

REMARKS

The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed October 9, 2002 does not appear to have been considered by the Examiner. A copy of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, as well as a copy of the return postcard from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, are enclosed herewith. Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and acknowledge such consideration in the next Action.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,771,252) in view of the Akimoto et al. reference entitled *Micro electro mechanical systems (MEMS) and their photonic application* and Maeda (U.S. Patent No. 6,018,535). Reconsideration of these claims is respectfully requested.

Lang et al., previously cited by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed May 9, 2001, disclose an external cavity, continuously tunable wavelength source. FIG. 1B therein illustrates a Littman type configuration. In this configuration, laser diode 10 is combined to form an external optical cavity with a fixed reflective element grating 12 and rotatable reflective element 18, as indicated by arrow 20, to provide frequency selection feedback for laser diode 10. Col. 1, lines 39-43. Lang et al. are concerned with avoiding mode hopping between optical cavity longitudinal modes in an external cavity laser diode having an external cavity grating mirror. As part of their solution, Lang et al. disclose that the light source relies on the optical properties of the optical system at a single wavelength, and is characterized by a phase error curve comprising